

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 24th August 1889.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Kasipore Nibasi" ...	Kasipore, Burrisal ...	30	
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
2	"Ahammadi" ...	Tangail, Mymensingh	450	
3	"Ave Maria" ...	Calcutta	.....
4	"Divakar" ...	Ditto	.....
5	"Gaura Duta" ...	Maldah	.....
6	"Purva Bangabasi" ...	Noakholly	.....
7	"Purva Darpan" ...	Chittagong	700	
8	"Uttara Banga Hitaishi" ...	Mahiganj, Rungpore...	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
9	"Arya Darpan" ...	Calcutta	102	
10	"Bangabasi" ...	Ditto	20,000	17th August 1889.
11	"Burdwan Sanjibani" ...	Burdwan	302	13th ditto.
12	"Chandra Vilash" ...	Berhampore	250	
13	"Charuvarta" ...	Sherepore, Mymensingh	500	12th ditto.
14	"Chattal Gazette" ...	Chittagong	800	
15	"Dacca Prakash" ...	Dacca	1,200	18th ditto.
16	"Education Gazette" ...	Hooghly	885	16th ditto.
17	"Faridpur Hitaishini" ...	Faridpur	.....
18	"Garib" ...	Dacca	3,000	
19	"Grambasi" ...	Uluberia	800	17th ditto.
20	"Gaurab" ...	Ditto	.....
21	"Guru Charana" ...	Calcutta	.....	15th ditto.
22	"Hindu Ranjika" ...	Beaulah, Rajshahye...	300	14th ditto.
23	"Jagatbasi" ...	Calcutta	750	
24	"Murshidabad Patrika" ...	Berhampore	508	
25	"Murshidabad Pratinidhi" ...	Ditto	350	
26	"Navavibhakar Sadharani" ...	Calcutta	600	19th ditto.
27	"Praja Bandhu" ...	Chandernagore	995	16th ditto.
28	"Pratikar" ...	Berhampore	600	16th ditto.
29	"Rungpore Dik Prakash" ...	Kakinia, Rungpore	205	25th July 1889.
30	"Sahachar" ...	Calcutta	500	14th August 1889.
31	"Samaya" ...	Ditto	3,806	16th ditto.
32	"Sanjivani" ...	Ditto	4,000	17th ditto.
33	"Sansodhini" ...	Chittagong	800	
34	"Santi" ...	Calcutta	3,722	14th & 21st August 1889.
35	"Sarawat Patra" ...	Dacca	300	
36	"Som Prakash" ...	Calcutta	1,000	19th August 1889.
37	"Srimanta Saudagar" ...	Ditto	.....
38	"Sulabha Samachar o Kusadaha" ...	Ditto	800	16th ditto.
39	"Surabhi o Pataka" ...	Ditto	700	15th ditto.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
<i>Daily.</i>				
40	"Dainik o Samachar Chandrika" ...	Calcutta ...	1,500	15th, 18th to 20th August 1889.
41	"Samvad Prabhakar" ...	Ditto ...	800	16th to 22nd ditto.
42	"Samvad Purnachandrodaya" ...	Ditto ...	300	16th to 22nd ditto.
43	"Banga Vidyá Prakashika" ...	Ditto ...	500	
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
44	"Dacca Gazette" ...	Dacca ...	.....	19th August 1889.
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
45	"Darjeeling Mission ke Masik Samachar Patrika." ...	Darjeeling ...	20	15th ditto.
46	"Kshatriya Pratika" ...	Patna ...	200	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
47	"Aryavarta" ...	Calcutta ...	1,500	10th & 17th August 1889.
48	"Behar Bandhu" ...	Bankipore ...	.....
49	"Bharat Mitra" ...	Calcutta ...	1,853	
50	"Sar Sudhanidhi" ...	Ditto ...	500	19th August 1889.
51	"Uchit Baktá" ...	Ditto ...	4,500	
52	"Hindi Samachar" ...	Bhagulpore ...	1,000	
PERSIAN.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
53	"Jam-Jahan-numa" ...	Calcutta ...	250	16th ditto.
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
54	"Aftal Alum Arrah" ...	Arrah ...	300	
55	"Akhbar Tusdiq-i-Hind" ...	Calcutta ...	...
56	"Anis" ...	Patna ...	.....
57	"Gauhur" ...	Calcutta ...	196	20th ditto.
58	"Sharaf-ul-Akbar" ...	Behar ...	150	
59	"Al Punch" ...	Bankipore ...	.....	12th ditto.
<i>Bi-weekly.</i>				
60	"Darusaltanat" ...	Calcutta ...	340	18th ditto.
<i>Daily.</i>				
61	"Urdu Guide" ...	Calcutta ...	212	
URIYA.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
62	"Asha" ...	Cuttack ...	.....
63	"Taraka and Subhavarta" ...	Ditto ...	.....
64	"Pradip" ...	Ditto ...	.....
65	"Samyabadi" ...	Ditto ...	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
66	"Dipaka" ...	Cuttack ...	.....	10th ditto.
67	"Utkal Dipika" ...	Ditto ...	444	10th ditto.
68	"Balasore Samvad Vahika" ...	Balasore ...	205	8th ditto.
69	"Urya and Navasamvad" ...	Ditto ...	600	7th ditto.
PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.				
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
70	"Silchar" ...	Silchar ...	500	12th ditto.
<i>Weekly.</i>				
71	"Paridarshak" ...	Sylhet ...	450	

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE *Navavibhakar Sádharaní*, of the 19th August, says that the Tibet difficulties are at an end. The money which Lord Dufferin's Government poured out like water in the hope of opening up Tibet to English trade has been simply wasted. The hope that China would do good offices to England in this matter is frustrated. China, it is said, does not like that England should have trade relations with Tibet, and she has therefore refused to interfere in the matter. It is well that Government has even now desisted from seeking to establish trade relations with Tibet. But, unfortunately, an additional charge will henceforward have to be borne by the Indians, because a body of troops will be stationed permanently on the Sikkim frontier.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
Aug. 19th, 1889.

2. The *Sánti*, of the 21st August, says that while troops are being recalled from Sikkim, preparations are being made for a war against the Lushais on the borders of Chittagong. The Lushai country is situated between Bengal and Burma. And a people so turbulent should not be allowed to live in such a place. The writer approves of the attempt of the British Government to suppress the Lushais. But he is sorry that India is too poor to pay money for carrying on wars.

SANTI,
Aug. 21st, 1889.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

3. The *Samaya*, of the 16th August, asks—Does not the police officer deserve punishment who arrested an innocent man at Rangoon in the belief that he was the durwan in the employ of Messrs. Cook, Kelvey and Company, who has been, for some months, wanted by the police for the murder of his wife, and brought him down to Calcutta handcuffed and fettered? Mistakes of this nature are often made by the police.

SAMAYA,
Aug. 16th, 1889.

4. The *Aryavarta*, of the 17th August, complains of the inefficiency of the Calcutta Police. On the 14th August last there was a free fight with *lathees* between some Habsees and some Peshwarees in Mechua Bazar, in which several persons were severely injured.

ARYAVARTA,
Aug. 17th, 1889.

Again, the low class prostitutes living in Mechua Bazar obstruct public roads and use obscene language and make obscene gestures, but nothing is done to check them. Will the authorities look to this?

5. The *Gauhar*, of the 20th August, says that while budmashes in the mofussil are required by the police to furnish securities for good behaviour, nothing of that kind has to be done in Calcutta. Budmashes are, therefore, steadily increasing in number in Calcutta. The authorities are requested to pay special attention to the matter.

GAUHAR,
Aug. 20th, 1889.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

6. The *Surabhi o Patáká*, of the 15th August, makes the following comments on Mr. Barrow's decision in the Jessore student's case:—

SURABHI O PATAKA,
Aug. 15th, 1889.

The Anglo-Indians of the present day think that Indian school-boys are rebels, and are therefore very hard upon them. This has been shown in Mr. Barrow's decision in the Jessore students' case. The offence of the boys was of a very trifling nature, and the evidence against them was doubtful, yet the Magistrate convicted them, and sentenced them to fine and

imprisonment. The decision has struck terror into the hearts of the people of Bengal. Supposing the students to have been guilty of an offence, the sentence passed on them has been hard beyond all proportion to its gravity. And not satisfied with punishing the boys, the Magistrate has taken their guardians to task for allowing them to become so unruly. Is it to be supposed that the Magistrate has sent the boys to jail out of pure spite against their parents and guardians? Certainly it looks like that. For he would not otherwise have introduced a matter so irrelevant into his decision. Boys are naturally unruly and have been so all time. And Indian Magistrates are the only Magistrates in the world who punish boys for their natural restiveness. In delivering judgment in the case, the Magistrate has referred to past cases of unruly conduct on the part of school-boys. But dullard that he is, it did not strike him that it is perfectly illegal and irrelevant to refer to such things in the course of a judgment, and that his sentence has been a very severe one. Probably a sentence of death would have satisfied him. He has remarked in the course of his judgment that "if parents and guardians will not implant respect and obedience in the boys and youths reading at the schools, the action of the law must come into force, and they must be punished like ordinary criminals."

What store of mischief is in these words! Has the police been instructed to teach morality to boys? Will the people of the country still sleep?

SAMAYA,
Aug. 16th, 1889.

7. The *Samaya*, of the 16th August, says that it is clear from the decision passed in the Jessore students' case by Mr. Barrow, Magistrate of Jessore, a

decision by the way which is the product of an immature brain, that the students have not been justly dealt with, and that the Magistrate did his best to support the police. He has fully believed the story of the police, and has introduced a lot of irrelevant matter for the purpose of convicting the students.

BANGABASI,
Aug. 17th, 1889.

8. The *Bangabasi*, of the 17th August, refers to the order passed by the Lieutenant-Governor for the dismissal of Baboo Krishna Chunder Banerjee, Accountant of the Chittagong Collectorate, and asks whether or not the *Chattal Gazette* news-

Baboo Krishna Chunder Banerjee,
Accountant of the Chittagong Collec-
torate, and the *Chattal Gazette* news-
paper.

paper did well in exposing the Accountant, and whether or not it did so for the public good. It is now clear that, in deciding against the *Chattal Gazette*, the Magistrate of Chittagong did injustice to the defendant; and Government should, therefore, refund to the editor the amount of the fine which has been paid by him.

BANGABASI.

9. In reviewing the judgment delivered by Mr. Barrow, the Magistrate of Jessore, in the case of four students who were charged with having been members

of an unlawful assembly, the object of which was to assault some police constables, the same paper observes as follows:—

What Mr. Barrow was called upon to do was to find out from the evidence produced in the case whether the boys were guilty or not. But he has imported into his judgment various matters from his personal knowledge, about which no evidence was given in the case. It is clear that he attached weight to these extraneous matters, and that those matters influenced his judgment in the case. What business had he to recount the misdeeds of students in other parts of the Jessore district, or to make general reflections on the character of school-boys? Mr. Barrow says in his judgment:—

"The present disturbance is not the only case in the district in which the students have shown utter disregard of the law and public tranquillity."

And with the view of supporting this statement, the learned, pure-minded and impartial Magistrate gives two instances of past misconduct on the part of school-boys—

“At Narail they boarded a steamer, ill-used the crew, and destroyed property, and the police, no doubt through fear of such powerfully connected culprits, showed their incapacity and timidity by refusing to take up the case. Eventually no one could be identified. Here we had lately had a complaint from the station-master of large bands of students coming and insulting him and his staff.”

It should be noted that in both the cases referred to by the Magistrate, the students were acquitted. But the wise and conscientious Magistrate, profoundly learned in the law, is of opinion that the boys were guilty and has used that opinion as evidence in the present case! In the present case, the boys would not have been punished if they had not been tried by so profound a lawyer.

It seems that Mr. Barrow is not satisfied with punishing three boys. He would have been very glad if he could have sent all the school-boys in Jessore to jail. But the police sent up only a small number of boys for trial, and he is therefore dissatisfied with the police. He says—

“The Inspector certainly has not shown much ability in dealing with those disturbances and somewhat lost his head. But when students are concerned, all police officers seem to lose their self-possession and fail to be cool, deliberate, and to take measures to identify the offenders.”

But if the Jessore police had not lost their coolness and self-possession, the present students' case could not have happened, and Mr. Barrow would not have had to bother his head about it.

Mr. Barrow has for a long time entertained a strong prejudice against school-boys, and he made use of this case to give vent to his spleen against them. And that is the reason why Mr. Barrow, not satisfied with punishing boys, has denounced their parents, guardians, and teachers as well. It seems that in his anger against school-boys Mr. Barrow has disbelieved the evidence of very respectable witnesses, and accepted the testimony of such low people as Tofajel and Ifajel constables.

10. The *Sanjivani*, of the 17th August, thinks that summary trials under the Criminal Procedure Code are dangerous, and often result in oppression. The

A summary trial in Balasore.

case of Baboo Haris Chandra Sarkar, a respectable inhabitant of Balasore, who has been fined Rs. 10 on the alleged charge of having been drunk and disorderly by Mr. Mendes, the local Deputy Magistrate, illustrates the mischief which is done by summary trials. The evidence against Haris Baboo was extremely unsatisfactory, and came from no better men than some police constables, an opium-eater and a ganja-seller, and the evidence in his favour, which was given by some very respectable people, was of a very trustworthy description. But the Deputy Magistrate accepted the first evidence and rejected the last. And as he tried summarily there could be no appeal against his sentence.

SANJIVANI,
Aug. 17th, 1889.

11. The same paper makes the following extract from the judgment of Mr. Barrow, the Magistrate of Jessore, in the students' case:—

The Jessore students case.

For accused No. 3, a strong alibi has been set up, and I accept it. Certainly the evidence of his absence is very strong. But even if he was not present, the constables may not be deliberately swearing falsely; they may think they recognized him. Or like most uneducated persons when not over-scrupulous, they may be willing to swear they recognised even in no belief at all, and observes as follows:—

If the conclusion arrived at by Mr. Barrow in regard to the evidence of the constables about accused No. 3 is correct, may it not be that he

SANJIVANI.

ought to have arrived at a similar conclusion on the evidence of the constables in regard to the other accused? For if the constables have been wrong in their identification of one of the accused, what is there so strong or conclusive as to show that they have not been wrong in their identification of the other accused? The Magistrate had no right to disbelieve the constables in regard to one of the defendants, and to believe them in regard to the rest. He should have either believed or disbelieved them in regard to all the defendants.

Bisweswar was not in Jessore, and yet the constables did not hesitate to make him a defendant and to depose against him. There is, therefore, no room for doubt that the constables have given false evidence against the defendants who have been convicted. Baboo Umes Chandra Ghosh, Pleader of the Judge's Court, deposed that Mahim Chandra Das, the Sub-Inspector of Police, had told him that Suresh was arrested on the public road. And the evidence of Baboo Aditya Chandra Sen, the Chairman of the local municipality and a pleader of the Jessore bar, and of Bechu constable corroborated the evidence of Mohim Baboo. Mr. Barrow too stated that the prosecution had not been able to prove that the accused boys were on the scene of the disturbance. He says :—

“I am by no means inclined to trust much to the alleged identification by these three constables, but I think this statement is worth something.”

It is on the strength of this *something* that Mr. Barrow has sentenced Sures and Srish to one month's imprisonment each and fined Basanta Rs. 5. Again, Mr. Barrow says that the defendants did not deny that some of the boys had a quarrel with the constables and some of them followed the latter into the thana. But did that justify him in punishing the particular boys who were placed before him for trial without clear evidence of their complicity in the affair?

The manner, indeed, in which Mr. Barrow has tried this case reminds one of the words of Jugal Baboo, who told the boys on a previous occasion that as the students of Khulna had assaulted Mr. Barrow, the latter bore a grudge against the students, and if they once fell into his hands he would not easily let them off.

DAINIK O SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Aug. 18th, 1889.

Mr. Barrow and the Jessore students' case.

12. The *Dainik o Samachara Chandrika*, of the 18th August, thus remarks on Mr. Barrow's decision in the Jessore students' case :—

The boys implicated in this case belong to a private school at Jessore called the *Sammilani Pathsala*. The school was established by the united efforts of some pleaders of the Jessore bar. The fact that the school owes its existence to united efforts should certainly look suspicious, and means, perchance, a prelude to rebellion. It was only the other day the boys of this school defied the authority of the railway station-master of Jessore, and they to-day show that they are not afraid of the local constabulary. The school must have been founded for the spread of disaffection, and its rebellious tendencies certainly require to be nipped in the bud. When the Director of Public Instruction has resolved not to allow any book which speaks of heroism, patriotism, and independence to be read in the schools of this country, it cannot be that the Government officials will at all like that the Jessore *Sammilani Pathsala* should assist in the spread of rebellion in the country. Hence Mr. Barrow has certainly deserved the thanks of Government by punishing the boys of the *Sammilani Pathsala*.

When the police constables say that the *Sammilani* boys have disobeyed them, chased them, very nearly looted the thana, prevented some of them from cooking and eating their food, thus intending to make them physically weak, the truthful and impartial Mr. Barrow is bound to believe them. But the statement of the teachers and the boys of the *Sammilani* and of the

pleaders must not be believed, for they are all secretly preparing a rebellion ! Mr. Barrow, therefore, certainly deserves to be thanked.

The boys engaged the services of many good pleaders and of a Calcutta barrister. And the Magistrate, as he has himself said in his judgment, not feeling confident enough to fight single-handed with them, engaged the services of the Government pleader on behalf of the Crown, and he did not also forget to taunt the boys for not having moved the High Court after having expressed a desire to do so. Everything, of course, looks fair in a Magistrate of a district.

The writer is not at all astonished that the Magistrate has decided the case in a way which will prevent the boys from appealing. For treatment ought to be suitable to disease. Those who are now boys in the schools will be the youth of the future, and the poison tree should be crushed out in the germ. Mr. Barrow believes that the case has a political aspect, and so if he had got the power he would not have failed to enforce even martial law.

Moving the High Court is a troublesome affair ; and the writer will be sorry if the High Court is moved and moved with success. The Empire, which is so clearly in danger from these Bengali school-boys, should be first thought of and protected. And compared with the safety of the Empire, the protection of the subject and the maintenance of the law are things of very inferior moment. Surely it has become difficult to keep the young and the old of this country within lether ; consequently treatment must commence with the children. And this is what Mr. Barrow is doing. If the decision of Mr. Barrow is reversed on appeal or motion, the Empire will be seriously jeopardised.

13. Referring to the sentence passed by Mr. Barrow, Magistrate of Jessore, in the Jessore students' case, the *Sánti*, of the 21st August, expresses the opinion that

The Jessore students' case.

a fine would have been a sufficient punishment for these school-boys. Mr. Barrow has treated the wild pranks of boys like the criminal acts of hardened malefactors. The boys have been dealt with by him in the same way as a thief or other criminal of that kind would be dealt with. The students of Harrow, Eton, Cambridge and Oxford are notorious for their wicked pranks, and does Mr. Barrow know how they are dealt with ? Their acts provoke more laughter than anger. Bengali boys are naturally timid, and they should not be treated by the Magistrates with so much rigor for playing pranks now and then. Sir Steuart Bayley is requested to instruct all Magistrates to deal leniently with school-boys when they are charged with creating disturbances.

SANTI,
Aug. 21st, 1889.

(c)—Jails.

14. The *Samaya*, of the 16th August, does not think that the mere appointment of an Inspector-General of Jails for all India, with a Deputy Inspector-General for each province, will improve the jail administration of India.

Indian jail administration.

SAMAYA
Aug. 16th, 1889.

15. Referring to the rumour that the Jail Department will be placed under Imperial control with an Inspector-General for the whole of India and a Deputy

The Jail Department.

BANGABASI,
Aug. 17th, 1889.

Inspector-General for each province, the *Bangabási*, of the 17th August, expresses its desire to know what the pay of the proposed Inspector-General and what the pay of the Provincial Deputy Inspector-General will be. If the proposed arrangement results in curtailment of expenditure in the Jail Department, it will meet with public approval. But it will not satisfy the public, if it is only intended to be a showy arrangement resorted to for the purpose of putting a stop to all public agitation against the present jail administration.

(d)—Education.

ARYAVARTA,
Aug. 10th, 1889.

16. Referring to the proposal to impart moral education in the schools, the *Aryāvarta*, of the 10th August, says that Government should not teach Christian morality to Hindu and Mahomedan boys.

SANTI,
Aug. 14th, 1889.

17. The *Sānti*, of the 14th August, says that Mr. Billing, a Professor of the Hooghly College, has become highly unpopular with his students. He is always in a temper, and is never heard to speak gently to anybody. He ought to be transferred from the Hooghly College.

SURABHI O PATAKA,
Aug. 15th, 1889

18. The *Surabhi o Patākā*, of the 15th August, points out the following grammatical mistakes in the new Sanskrit course for the Entrance Examination:—

1. Page 77, footnote (2)—“गःसन्ति” should be “गवःसन्ति” because सन्ति which is a plural verb requires a plural nominative which “गः” is not.
2. Page 53, footnote (2)—“लोकः धर्मेः अलङ्घ्यते” should be “लोकः धर्मेः अलङ्घ्यते,” because the verb should agree with “लोकः” which is in the plural number.
3. Page 96, footnote (2)—“उपसृपसृ” should be “उपसृपयान” according to both Mugdhabodha and Panini.
4. Page 39, line 5—“निर्वासयतु” is wrongly used, because the action denoted by the verb is not present but past.
5. Page 1, footnote—The derivation of “नाकिनात” given in the note is wrong. Here the suffix is not त् but त्वा.
6. Page 19, footnote—“Chief manager of the household affairs” the should be omitted.
7. Page 48, footnote (2)—“पुण्यकर्मलता” should be पुण्यकर्मलता.
8. Page 50, footnote (2)—“अपराध” should be अपराधः.
9. Page 57, footnote (1)—“दुर्मिसृष्टि” should be दुर्मिसृष्टि.
10. Page 63, sloke 8—“अवब” should be अवबम्.
11. Page 75, footnote (4)—“अष्टादश” is not a case of समाहार compound as stated in the note.
12. Page 83, foot note (1)—“शीतगामिना” should be शीतगामिनी.
13. Page 91, line 3—“पुत्राभिलाषा” should be पुत्राभिलाषा.
14. Page 95, line 2—“छद्मयाना” should be छद्मयाना.
15. Page 95, foot note (1)—“छद्मयाना” should be छद्मयाना.
16. Page 99, line 6—“गुरुवाक्य” should be गुरुवाक्य.
17. Page 89, line 9—“पर्यायेन” should be पर्यायेन.
18. Page 39, line 9—“अमाज्ज” should be अमाज्ज.

EDUCATION GAZETTE,
Aug. 16th, 1889.

19. A correspondent of the *Education Gazette*, of the 16th August, says that the teachers of village pathshalas are about the most overworked set of men. They

are very poor, and the fear of losing the scanty aid given by Government in behalf of their pathshalas makes them undergo many privations in this arduous work of training up their little pupils. But though they work so hard, and are so devoted to their duties, they are not properly rewarded, and their salaries are often three or four months in arrear. The teachers of

pathsalas in the district of Beerbhoom are particularly unfortunate in this respect, six months having elapsed since they last received their salaries. Before the creation of the District and Local Boards, the salaries of these teachers were paid by Deputy Inspectors of Schools, and payment was never delayed more than three months. One result of the increased delay in the payment of their salaries is that they are obliged to neglect their tutorial work in order to make money by other means for the maintenance of their families. The authorities should look to the matter.

20. The *Sulabh Samáchar o Kushdaha*, of the 16th August, does not,

SULABH SAMACHAR-O-
KUSHDAHA,
Aug. 16th, 1889.

A Mahomedan student in the Sanskrit College.

like its contemporaries, blame Pandit Mahes Chandra Nyayaratna for admitting to the M. A. class of the Sanskrit College Mahaboob Rahaman, who passed the B. A. Examination with honours in Sanskrit from the Presidency College. Educated editors should not be so narrow-minded as to object to such a good act. If the Vedas be a revelation from God, everyone should have equal right to study them, and their sanctity will not be destroyed if they are studied by Mahomedans. True Hindus will not certainly agree with these erring editors. In ancient times Greeks, Romans, Egyptians, Arabians, and Phoenicians used to come to India to study her arts, sciences, and religion, and no one objected to their studying them. Why then should such objections be raised now?

21. The *Sanjivani*, of the 17th August, is glad to find that an educated

SANJIVANI,
Aug. 17th, 1889.

The new post in the University office.

gentleman is going to be appointed as an Assistant in the office of the Calcutta University, and he will be still more glad if a gentleman of good morals and manners is appointed to the post. The work done by the University clerks is one in which thousands of boys are interested, and they have to deal with papers of a confidential nature. They also come in contact with men of learning and position and influence. It is, therefore, necessary that they should be men of perfect honesty and integrity on the one hand, and of manners on the other. The present Bara Baboo of the University office is by no means a man of manners. He addresses people in the discourteous and disrespectful form of *tumi* and *tui*.

22. The *Bangabasi*, of the 17th August, has learnt from the Chit-

BANGABASI,
Aug. 17th, 1889.

Moral teaching in the Chittagong College.

tagong *Sansodhini* that, in pursuance of a Government circular, Mr. Dutt has given permission to Parbati Baboo to impart moral instruction to the students of the Chittagong College and Collegiate School, and asks what this Government circular is and what is Parbati Baboo's own religion.

23. The *Dainik o Samáchara Chandriká*, of the 19th August, makes

DAINIK O SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Aug. 19th, 1889.

The Education Resolution of the Government of India.

the following remarks on the last Education Resolution of the Government of India:—

1. The Resolution states that, as regards the main points, both the officers of Government and the representatives of the native community are of one and the same opinion. But who are those that are meant by representatives of the native community? According to the official vocabulary the expression means one thing at one time and another thing at another time. When the Congressists say anything against Government, they cease to be representatives of the native community. But when they say anything about education, which has the approbation of the officers of Government, they become the representatives of the native community. The writer does not think, however, that suggestions on the subject of education made by men who, according to the

official vocabulary, are representatives of the native community will be likely to waken any response in the native community.

2. The Resolution recommends the infliction of corporal punishment in cases of insubordination on the part of school-boys. This means that the old guru mahasaya's system will be revived. The writer will now seriously consider whether or not he should send his weak and sickly children to school after this.
3. It seems from the Resolution that all the Provincial Governments have recommended both forms of punishment for school-boys, namely, fine and beating. And so the schools will henceforward be like so many criminal jails. Did the men who, according to the official vocabulary, are "representatives of the native community," also give this opinion?
4. Hostels for students will be established—not with Government money, but with public money. But hostels as they are managed are not very good things. Caste is not respected there, and morals undergo deterioration.
5. It seems that the inter-school rules will henceforward be imposed in regard to private schools also. This is unjust and will lead to the commission of *zulum* on those schools.
6. The drift of the resolution seems to be that henceforward the general public will be required to take upon themselves the whole burden of education, Government restricting its efforts to the training up of teachers.
7. The boys will be henceforward made moral by means of moral text-books and good teachers. And the public will now be certainly satisfied! The task of preparing a moral text-book for Hindoo and Mussulman boys has been entrusted to Mr. Tawney, the *Christian* Principal of the Presidency College! So the work of India's regeneration will now proceed very fast!

(e.)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

SAHACHAR,
Aug. 14th, 1889.

24. The *Sahachar*, of the 14th August, says that Mr. Harrington's incineration proposal to burn the sweepings of Calcutta by means of incinerators should not be accepted without careful consideration. India is the land of experiments, and the public know to their cost what large sums have been spent, and are even now being spent every year in the name of experiment. The military works constructed at Quetta are an instance in point.

HINDU RANJIKÁ,
Aug. 14th, 1889.

25. The *Hindu Ranjiká*, of the 14th August, says that great inconvenience is felt by those who go to cremate dead bodies at the Talaimari Ghât within the Bampore Beauleah Municipality. The hut at the ghât was formerly kept clean at the expense of the Municipality, but is not done so now. Will the Municipal Commissioners look to the matter?

Again, the town of Rampore Beauleah is the first and foremost town in Bengal as regards cholera mortality. The Municipality has, indeed, effected many sanitary improvements, but it has not still succeeded in checking cholera. The Municipal authorities are, therefore, requested to appoint a committee consisting of the local Civil Surgeon, Assistant Surgeon, and other experienced gentlemen to inquire into the cause of this abnormal cholera mortality.

During the cholera season special attention should be paid to the cleanliness of the town. The Municipal Commissioners are requested to remove the filthy accumulation near the house of the Raja of Dighapatia and that of Baboo Mahendra Nath Sanyal.

The night-soil depôt at Ganakpara should be removed from its present site. It is difficult to pass by the depôt with the nostrils open.

26. The *Education Gazette*, of the 16th August, says that when

EDUCATION GAZETTE,
Aug. 16th, 1889.

The next election for the District and Local Boards.

District and Local Boards were created three years ago, people had no clear ideas about what their constitution and mode of working would be, and in electing members for those Boards, the voters were therefore influenced by very dissimilar considerations. Even Government had doubts as to whether their own nominees on the Boards would acquit themselves well. In short, all the members of the Boards, whether elected by the people or nominated by the Government, have been on their trial during the last three years. And it is very desirable, both for Government and the people, to know the result of that trial, in order that they may be rightly guided by that knowledge at the approaching election of members for those Boards. Circulars containing the following particulars should, therefore, be issued before the new elections take place:—

(1) the names of the members of the District and Local Boards constituted in 1886; (2) the names of the elected and nominated members, respectively; (3) percentage of attendance by each member of the Boards; (4) the travelling allowance taken by the members; (5) a summary account and outcome of proposals, if any, made by the members; (6) the Chairman's remarks on their manner of doing the work of the Boards; (7) other remarks.

If circulars containing these particulars are issued, both Government and the people will be in a position to judge which of their representatives on the Boards have discharged their duties satisfactorily, and which have not, and will accordingly be able to reject or to re-elect or re-nominate at the next election. If the Boards are not reconstituted on these lines, local self-government will do more harm than good to the country. The attention of Government is drawn to the matter.

27. The *Grāmvasī*, of the 17th August, says that though the Local

GRAMVASI,
Aug. 17th, 1889.

Village boards as a factor in local self-government.

Self-Government Act distinctly provides for the establishment of three kinds of Boards, namely, District Boards, Local Boards, and

Union Committees or Village Boards, still only the first two kinds of Boards have been up to this time established.

As all real work connected with local self-government has been entrusted to the District Boards, the Local Boards being simply made to carry out their orders, no necessity for the creation of the Village Boards has been felt. The result of this arrangement has been to make the District Boards all in all. Practically, there is none to exercise supervision over their work or to correct their mistakes and take note of their shortcomings. It would have been far better therefore if, as proposed by the Lieutenant-Governor on the occasion of the introduction of local self-government into this country, all the work that is now done by the District Boards had been entrusted to Local Boards, and Village Boards had been created under the Local Boards with the object of looking specially after the wants of the villages, and District Boards had been entrusted with the power of control and supervision over the Local Boards, and of sanctioning money for large undertakings. It is therefore desirable that the present constitutions of the Boards should be changed, and Village Boards should be established all over the country. With the establishment of Village Boards, the number of workers in the cause of local self-government will largely increase, and village affairs will be better attended to than they are now.

The authorities should take the matter into their consideration in connection with the new elections for the Boards.

SANJIVANI,
Aug. 17th, 1889.

28. The *Sanjivani*, of the 17th August, says that, while both the Madras and Bombay Municipalities are trying to effect retrenchment in expenditure, the

The Calcutta Municipality.

Calcutta Municipality is increasing its expenditure by creating new posts, and by unnecessarily increasing the salaries of its highly-paid officers. Both the Chairman and the Secretary of the Calcutta Municipality draw high salaries. That this is so is because the majority of the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta are incompetent men.

DACCA PRAKASH,
Aug. 18th, 1889.

29. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 18th August, says that as the election of members for the District and Local

Election of members for the District and Local Boards.

Boards will take place shortly, it is the duty both of the Government and the public to

examine the work which has been done by their representatives during the last three years, in order that they may be able to select better men this time. The *Education Gazette* newspaper has made some excellent proposals in this connection (see Report on Native Papers for week ending 24th August, paragraph 26). If these proposals had been made earlier, they would have probably influenced the conduct of Government in the matter of the new elections. As it is, there is no chance of Government taking any action on them.

However, there is time yet, and before the election takes place, Government should review the work done by the present members of the Boards.

SOM PRAKASH,
Aug. 19th, 1889.

30. A correspondent of the *Som Prakash*, of the 19th August, says

Temporary clerks in the office of the Calcutta Municipality.

that the additional clerks temporarily employed by the Calcutta Municipality for the collection of the municipal rates are exceedingly over-

worked. They have to write continually from 10 A.M. to 7 P.M., and though thus overworked they are very poorly paid. Their rate of remuneration being 10 pice per every 100 tax-bills they write, supposing they can write 300 bills in a day, their maximum earning per day amounts only to 7½ annas. And not even this poor remuneration is paid to them in time, the payment being delayed at times for two months, during which time they have to attend at the Municipal office daily for the purpose of recovering their dues. Whether or not this delay in paying these clerks is due to negligence on the part of Kali Baboo, the head of the Bill Department, is not known. Sir Henry Harrison should enquire.

(g)—*Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Aug. 13th, 1889.

31. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 13th August, says that the water

The Eden Canal.

of the Eden Canal is urgently needed for agricultural operations in all the villages near

its banks. The people of the villages in question have applied for canal water to the authorities, but the latter have refused to grant their application until they pay in advance the water-rate for 500 bighas of land. Now as there is not the smallest chance of peasants holding 5,000 bighas acting together in the matter and collecting the required amount amongst themselves, the result of the refusal of the authorities to give water to the villages will be to destroy the crops growing therein. This will bring on famine, and compel Government to spend a large sum for the relief of the distressed. Thus both Government and people will suffer in the end. The authorities should therefore reconsider their decision in the matter.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

32. The same paper complains of mismanagement of various kinds,

The Burdwan railway station.

and of delay in the sale of tickets in the Burdwan railway station. Passengers often

miss the trains in consequence of the delay in getting tickets. Frequent

cases of theft in the station are also heard of. The authorities should look to the matter.

33. A correspondent of the same paper complains of the absence of a good road from the village Kuladiha near the Durgapore station to the Grand Trunk Road in the district of Burdwan. The existing road becomes impassable in the rainy season. The attention of the District and Local Boards is drawn to the matter.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Aug. 13th, 1889.

34. A correspondent of the same paper says that a road from Dhamasil and the neighbouring villages in the district of Hooghly to the Khaniyan railway station is urgently needed. The Local Board of Hooghly was applied to on the subject, but to no purpose. The Collector of Hooghly is earnestly entreated to order the construction of the road.

A road from the Khaniyan station to the village of Dhamasil, in the district of Hooghly.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

35. The *Grámvási*, of the 17th August, says that the people of the Uluberia sub-division have been put to great inconvenience in consequence of the closing of the khal near Jhikhira by order of Baboo Jivan Krishna, a local zemindar. The closing has put a stop to the importation of rice into the sub-division. The authorities should look to the matter.

Closing of a khal in the Uluberia sub-division.

GRAMVASI,
Aug. 17th, 1889.

(h)—General.

36. The *Sahachar*, of the 14th August, has the following on the subject of the improvement of agriculture in India:—

The Agricultural Department.

SAHACHAR,
Aug. 14th, 1889.

The Agricultural Department of Government, with its costly establishment and its civilian head, has as yet done nothing to justify its existence. It is necessary for the improvement of agriculture in the country that there should be an Inspector in each Commissioner's Division and a Sub-Inspector in each district to advise and instruct agriculturists in agricultural matters, to suggest better methods of agriculture, and to replace, if necessary, the implements of agriculture now in use by better ones. These Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors should also distribute agricultural tracts amongst gurus, village pundits and ákhunjis, encourage the cultivation of wheat in Bengal, discourage the adulteration of rice and other grains, and teach the peasants the art of making the same land yield crops year after year. If these suggestions are accepted, the students who have studied agriculture in England will have ample opportunities of turning their agricultural knowledge to account. Government should bear in mind that India is an agricultural country, and that the greater portion of its revenue is derived from the land. It is therefore its duty to take steps to improve the agriculture of the country. If Government takes the initiative in this matter in right earnest, it will have the satisfaction of seeing its efforts supplemented by those of the zemindars to the immense advantage of the country.

37. The *Samaya*, of the 16th August, says that, though not opposed in principle to the levy of a tax on education, still it cannot approve of the proposal to levy an education cess upon the zemindars. Considering their present condition, it will be unjust to levy such a cess upon them. It is hoped that Government will give up the idea of laying upon the country the burden of a new tax.

The proposed education cess.

SAMAYA,
Aug. 16th, 1889.

38. The *Samvád Prabhákar*, of the 16th August, expresses the hope that Lord Lansdowne will at once cancel the order issued by the Head Commissioner of the Paper Currency Office, to the effect that that office will remain open on the days on which the Bank of Bengal will

The Durga Puja holiday in the Paper Currency Office.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
Aug. 16th, 1889.

remain open during the Durga Puja holidays. It will not be difficult for His Excellency to understand that it would be highly unjust not to grant leave to Hindu clerks on the occasion of their most important religious festival.

GRAMVASI,
Aug. 17th, 1889.

39. The *Grámvási*, of the 17th August, is astonished to learn that the enquiry into the charges against the Sub-Registrar of Uluberia by the Deputy Magistrate, Nanda Baboo, has resulted in a complete acquittal of the Sub-Registrar. According to the report of the Deputy Magistrate, the Sub-Registrar is neither guilty of taking bribes nor of smoking tobacco in his office. Some 40 to 42 persons belonging to the thanas Uluberia and Bagnam, amongst whom were many men of respectability, spoke to the Sub-Registrar having taken bribes, or to his having sympathised with those who took them. But the report submitted by the Deputy Magistrate contains no reference to their evidence. The Deputy Magistrate only criticised the evidence given by some people of Baniban and pronounced it unreliable. The conclusion he has arrived at is that the charges against the Sub-Registrar have been manufactured by professional agitators, and that there is no truth in them.

Similarly, in examining the charge against Jadaba Baboo, the Deputy Magistrate says that, though the clerks of the Sub-Registrar's office are in the habit of taking six annas in excess of the legal registration fee, still as the same practice prevails among the amla of all other courts, the offence cannot be considered to be a serious one.

It seems now from the delay which has occurred in the submission of the report of the Deputy Magistrate that, but for the *takedas* which were sent for a report, no report would have been submitted. Nanda Baboo is a very good-natured man, and the gentlemanly and obliging behaviour of the Sub-Registrar towards him probably accounts for the fact of the report being favourable to the latter. Say what the Deputy Magistrate may, it is certain that he has not been able to arrive at the right conclusion in this matter. The charges against the Sub-Registrar are certainly not the outcome of professional agitation, and not a word thereof is false. The writer hopes that justice will be done by higher authorities.

SANJIVANI,
Aug. 17th, 1889.

40. The *Sanjivani*, of the 17th August, publishes the evidence collected at Dum-Dum by the editor's agent on the subject of the disturbances which are created at night by English soldiers in the quarter of the town where prostitutes live. The soldiers come out of the barracks in a drunken state after 9 p.m., and not finding the prostitutes in their houses (the prostitutes having fled away in fear) enter into the houses of respectable people and create disturbances there, sometimes to the extent of outraging the modesty of respectable women. The Cantonment Regulations strictly forbid soldiers to leave their barracks after 9 p.m., and if this rule is not rigorously enforced, the oppressions which drunken soldiers are committing in Dum-Dum, and which have produced quite a consternation among the residents of that place, will go on increasing. It is the duty of Government to protect the honour of its subjects against soldierly license.

The editor's agent also reports that the prostitutes living within the Cantonment have erected houses on the road from the railway station to the town of Dum-Dum through the Cantonment. And as respectable women use this road, they are annoyed by the prostitutes and sometimes even chased by the soldiers. On the 7th March last the Railway Police reported this to the Cantonment Magistrate who ordered the removal of all the prostitutes except one within 24 hours. This order was partly complied with. The Railway Police again drew the attention of the Magistrate to the matter on the 24th

April last, and the Magistrate wrote to the Bengal Police, but nothing has been yet done. The Railway Police drew the attention of the Magistrate to the matter a third time on the 5th August last, and the Magistrate has ordered the removal of the prostitutes, but his order has not been complied with. It has indeed been represented that the soldiers will be put to great inconvenience if the prostitutes are removed.

41. The *Som Prakash*, of the 19th August, protests against the order of the Comptroller-General of India under which the Paper Currency Office will remain open on those days during the Durja Puja vacation on which the Bank of Bengal will remain open, and says that the order virtually goes against the Lieutenant-Governor's order published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of 26th September 1888, exempting the Hindu clerks of the Custom House from attendance during the Durja Puja vacation. The proposed curtailment of these holidays in the Currency Office, approved as it is by the Government of India, will mean an interference with the religion of the Hindus.

SOM PRAKASH,
Aug. 19th, 1889.

42. The *Santi*, of the 21st August, says that every one in Bengal knows that Mr. Westmacott, the present Excise Commissioner for Bengal is a high-handed officer. Sir Steuart Bayley himself and other civilians also know him well. Mr. Westmacott knows nothing of the excise system, and yet he has been appointed head of the Excise Department. In order to maintain his own dignity and prestige, he has commenced to oppress his subordinates in the Excise Department.

SANTI,
Aug. 21st, 1889.

He recently visited the Hughli Excise Office, and degraded the head-clerk of that office, reduced his pay from Rs. 50 to Rs. 30, and fined him Rs. 25, simply because he made delay in showing him a book. The poor man cannot appeal against this unjust order of the all-powerful Mr. Westmacott. But the writer trusts that Sir Steuart Bayley will give Mr. Westmacott some friendly advice.

III.—LEGISLATIVE.

43. Referring to the proposal for the revival of the Contagious Diseases Act in India, the *Samvad Prabhakar*, of the 22nd August, says that the Act cannot be revived in any form in the face of the order of the House of Commons. Government wants to provide in the Cantonment law, now before the Legislative Council, for the removal from cantonments of prostitutes suffering from contagious diseases, or for their treatment in hospitals. But an examination of their persons will be necessary in both cases, and so there will be a virtual revival of the Contagious Diseases Act. Government should not, therefore, make any such provision in the law without giving the public an opportunity of considering it.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
Aug. 22nd, 1889.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

44. The *Sulabh Samachar o Kushdaha*, of the 16th August, thanks both Lord Lansdowne and Major Robertson for restoring to the Maharani of Rewa her son, and for treating her with so much consideration.

SULABH SAMACHAR-O-
KUSHDAHA,
Aug. 16th, 1889.

45. The *Sanjivani*, of the 17th August, says that it can prove that the charges of unfitness brought by Mr. Price against the Maharaja of Tipperah and his officers is utterly groundless. Mr. Price says:—

SANJIVANI,
Aug. 17th, 1889.

"The Yubaraj Bahadur and Bara Thakur have no voice in, or the smallest control over, the affairs of the Raj. It is strange that these two

princes, the future rulers of the State, should not have the power or influence for good or evil that a ten-rupee Bengali darogah or mohurir in the employ of the State has."

But the fact is that the Yubaraj is the Chief Justice of the State, and tries all important cases, and the Bara Thakur is the Commander-in-Chief and the Chairman of the Municipality. They are both empowered to supervise the general administration of the State. Can Mr. Price contradict this?

Again Mr. Price says:—"The Thakurs are not employed in any high office under the gift of the Maharajah."

But Raja Mukund Ram Deb, Bahadur, and Braja Mohan Thakur are Judges of khas appeals, Dhananjoy Thakur is Sessions Judge, Gopikrishna Thakur is a Judge of khas appeals and a Manager of the Raj family, Naradhaj Thakur is a Manager of the Raj family and a member of the State Council, Radha Mohan Thakur and Prasannakumar Thakur are District Magistrates, Kissory Mohun Thakur is Assistant Magistrate.

This shows that Mr. Price has made a false accusation against the Maharaja.

Mr. Price says:—"The Thakurs do not get any salary."

But the fact is that the Thakurs get allowances from the Rajbati for their maintenance; and they also get grants for social or religious ceremonies, and for the education of their children.

Mr. Price says:—"The Bengalis, and especially the inhabitants of Dacca, rob the Maharaja of everything."

But the fact is that Raj Mohan Baboo, the Dewan and Agent of the Maharaja's Chakla or zemindari, who has been in the Maharaja's service for 16 years, and draws a monthly salary of Rs. 250, has not yet been able to build a good house for himself, and Baboos Durga Prasad and Radharaman, the Maharaja's Dewans at Agartala, are not a whit better off. Not to speak of zemindaris, they have not been able to secure even an annual income of Rs. 200 or Rs. 300. All this means that these men are dishonest, and all these men, it should be remarked, are natives of Dacca.

Mr. Price says:—"The members of the Raj family, such as the widows of the late Rajah, the present Maharaja's own brothers, and other near relations, old men, women, and children, widows and orphans wholly dependent for the necessities of life on their allowance, are reduced through the greed or vindictiveness, or both combined, of the Bengali officials to the utmost straits; being often constrained to sell or pawn their trinkets and domestic utensils, and sometimes even obliged to beg enough to purchase a meal from a charitable neighbour or soft-hearted tradesman."

What impertinence this! The pious Maharaja cannot possibly be so heartless. Does such a story at all demand contradiction?

Mr. Price says:—"The condition of things is so discreditable in the Chakla that petty dealers and shop-keepers will not sell anything to the Rajbati except for cash payment."

Was the Political Agent in his senses when he wrote this? It simply excites laughter.

Mr. Price says:—"The restrictions imposed by the law upon creditors, who would like to sue the Maharaja for what he owes them, have placed them entirely at his mercy; otherwise the greater part of his zemindari would have been sold long ago in execution of decrees."

The restrictions were imposed in 1883, and the Maharaja ascended the *guddee* in 1868. How many zemindaris were sold from 1868 to 1883, that is to say, during the 15 years in which no such restrictions existed?

There can be no doubt, therefore, that Mr. Price has, for the benefit of his friend, tried to prejudice Government against the Maharaja by writing against the latter a report full of false statements. He thought

that no one except Government would have an opportunity of seeing or criticising his report, and he therefore wrote anything he chose. But falsehood cannot be long concealed.

46. The *Samvād Prabhakār*, of the 19th August, is sorry to read

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR
Aug. 19th, 1889.

Lord Lansdowne's letter to the Maharaja of Cashmere.

Lord Lansdowne's reply to the letter of the Maharaja of Cashmere. The reply is not such as an independent native prince could expect from the Viceroy of India. Lord Lansdowne has not instituted any inquiry into the complaints made by the Maharaja against his younger brother and Resident, and has blindly followed the advice of the Foreign Office. Lord Lansdowne's reply seems to imply that the statements of Maharaja Pratap Singh are all false, and those of his enemies are all true. No impartial man would have decided the matter in this way. The fate of Maharaja Pratap Singh is sealed. The Secretary of State for India has approved of the action of Lord Lansdowne. The Maharaja should not look for justice in India. He should apply to Parliament for justice. But justice cannot be had even in Parliament so long as the Conservative Ministry exists.

47. The *Som Prakash*, of the 19th August, makes the following observations on Lord Lansdowne's letter to the Maharaja of Cashmere:—His Excellency

SOM PRAKASH
Aug. 19th, 1889

The Viceroy's letter to the Maharaja of Cashmere.

has acted in a most cowardly manner in attempting to hold his predecessor responsible for the new arrangements in Cashmere. Lord Lansdowne tells the Maharaja that Lord Dufferin, who was exceedingly dissatisfied with His Highness' administration, had in a manner settled what arrangements should be made for his State. As for himself, His Excellency goes on to say he personally knows nothing of the charges against His Highness. These statements of Lord Lansdowne show with what impartiality His Lordship has answered the letter of the Maharaja! As for the concluding words of Lord Lansdowne that His Highness will be allowed to take some share in the administration of his State upon the proof he will give of good behaviour in the future, it will not be too much to say that there is no real meaning in them. They say that mountains look beautiful from a distance, and so there was a time when Lord Lansdowne looked beautiful to the people of India. But His Excellency is being gradually found out.

48. The *Dainik-o-Samachār Chandrikā*, of the 20th August, thus reviews Lord Lansdowne's letter to the Maharaja of Cashmere:—

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Aug. 20th, 1889.

Lord Lansdowne's letter to the Maharaja of Cashmere.

Lord Lansdowne has exculpated every one except Pratap Singh, the Maharaja of Cashmere. According to His Excellency, Pratap Singh alone is wicked, and all else, including Colonel Nisbet and Amar Singh are good men. This, at any rate, will be the impression in a man's mind upon a careful perusal of the concluding portion of the Viceroy's letter. The Viceroy apparently seems to think that it is a signal proof of his own and the English people's sense of justice that the Government has provided for the payment of a monthly allowance to the eldest grandson of Golab Singh and the eldest son of Ranabir Singh out of the revenues of his own ancestral State!

The perusal of the letter has not changed the writer's view of the Cashmere question. It seems that Lord Lansdowne has accepted as correct whatever the Resident has told him, and has disbelieved all the statements of the Maharaja. That the Maharaja has not been believed is probably because believing him would stand in the way of bringing Cashmere under *khas* British rule. The fact is that, being a frontier State, the occupation of Cashmere has a strategical importance for the English Government in view of a Russian

invasion. It is the interest of the English to occupy Cashmere, and they are determined to occupy it either *benami* or in their own name. Anyhow, the career of Pratab Singh as a ruler ought to end here. Let Cashmere be occupied by the British Government, and let Amar Singh and Ram Singh become what Pratap Singh has become, and the writer will not utter one word of protest. But what he will protest against is that the British Government has earned a bad name for itself by adopting crooked means to accomplish its ends. The writer will not approve of anything which, like the annexation of Cashmere, gives the enemies of the British Government an opportunity of speaking tauntingly about it. The writer cannot bear to see the *Moscow Gazette* taunting the British Government for its Cashmere policy.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

RUNGPORE DIK PRA-
KASH,
July 25th, 1889.

49. The *Rungpore Dik Prákásh*, of the 25th July, says that floods in the Trista river have submerged the chur at Bajra in the Bahirbandar pergunnah of the

Rungpore district. There is water inside people's houses. The standing crops have been submerged, and the stored paddy and the reaped paddy plants have all been washed away. The cattle too have been washed away, and many of them have died. The sufferings of the people have become very severe. They are living on *machans* (bamboo platforms). Distress from flood was unknown to the people of Rungpore on account of the general elevation of their district. The Maharani Swarnamayi, who is the proprietress of the flooded chur, is requested to remove the sufferings of her poor ryots.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Aug. 13th, 1889.

Prospects of the crops in the district of Burdwan.

50. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 13th August, in speaking of the condition of the crops in the district of Burdwan, remarks

as follows:—

The rainfall in the district has been deficient. In many places agricultural operations have been nearly stopped for want of water. If rainfall is still delayed, there will certainly be famine in the district next year.

SAHACHAR,
Aug. 14th, 1889.

51. The *Sahachar*, of the 14th August, says that Sir John Edgar's visit to Angul has led to the appointment of two Sub-Deputy Collectors for the purpose of

superintending relief operations in the distressed tracts of Orissa. The unfortunate peasants of Orissa would have been greatly benefited if the money which will now be spent in paying the salaries of those officers had been spent in purchasing rice a few months before for distribution amongst them. Government cannot say that it had no timely information of the famine, for the newspapers kept writing on the subject for a long time. Now that Government has taken upon itself the task of relieving the distress of the people, the question arises, what is the proper time for relieving the distressed? The answer to this question will depend on the answer to the further question, what is famine according to Government? This latter question should be answered once for all. Lord Northbrook held that the country should be considered to be on the verge of famine when rice sells at 10 seers per rupee. And as it is very desirable that there should be some means of judging whether or not famine exist anywhere, Lord Northbrook's principle should be revived. For then both Government and the public will have something definite to go upon in ascertaining the existence of distress, and the frequent unseemly differences of opinion between them about the fact of famine and the necessity of famine relief will cease to exist.

GRAMVASI,
Aug. 17th, 1889.

52. The *Grámvási*, of the 17th August, says that distress in a severe form has made its appearance in some parts of the district of Howrah, where three cases of

Scarcity in the district of Howrah.

suicide from extreme want have already occurred. Of these three cases one occurred at Ramnagar in the Uluberia sub-division, and the other two within the jurisdiction of the Amta thana. Poor people are living on one meal a day, and many of the peasants are working as ordinary labourers. The roads are giving work to nobody because the Board has made no provision for repairing roads this year. The authorities should look to the condition of the poor in the district and give aid to those who are really in need of it.

53. The *Sanjivani*, of the 17th August, says that the floods in the Brahmaputra have devastated the Tangail sub-division. A large number of houses have come down and people are suffering. Cattle are getting no food. A cultivator has sold eight cows for one rupee and annas four, being unable to supply them with food and accommodation. The poor cultivators have lost their standing crops, paddy and jute. Hâts, bazars, and schools have been all closed, and the whole tract is submerged. Such floods were never before seen in this sub-division and the sub-division is threatened with famine. Government should look sharp.

SANJIVANI,
Aug. 17th, 1889.

54. The same paper sincerely thanks Sir John Edgar for the relief arrangements made by him in Orissa. It is no wonder that the Government should express dissatisfaction with the work of the present Sub-Deputy Collector of Angul, and it is hoped that he will be severely dealt with and not let off with a simple censure. It should be enquired, however, whether the Sub-Deputy alone is guilty of suppressing the facts in connection with the famine in Angul. It is significant that many highly-placed officers are reporting the existence of famine in Angul after Sir John Edgar's visit to the afflicted tract. Sometime ago, Baboos Nanda Kishor Das and Kali Pada Mookerjee, Personal Assistants to the Commissioner of the Orissa Division, did not believe that people were suffering from the scarcity, and if anybody had tried to make the existence of famine known, they would in all probability have prevented him from doing so. Perhaps the Sub-Deputy Collector suppressed the real state of affairs at their instigation. If the Commissioner had personally visited Angul, he could have ascertained the real condition of the people, and he should be therefore asked to explain why he did not do so. For it is clear that if the Commissioner had done his duty in this respect, Sir John Edgar would have been spared the trouble of visiting Orissa in person.

SANJIVANI.

55. A correspondent of the *Dacca Prakash*, of the 18th August, says that for want of timely rain there has been a failure of crops in the villages within the jurisdiction of the thana of Nawabgunge, and the aus crop has been destroyed by the accumulation of water in the fields. There is scarcity of food already.

DACCA PRAKASH,
Aug. 18th, 1889.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

56. The *Sahachar*, of the 14th August, in replying to the criticisms of its contemporaries (see Report on Native papers for week ending the 17th August 1889, paragraph 45) on its article on the tea-planters of India (see Report on Native papers for week ending the 10th August 1889, paragraph 47), remarks as follows:—

SAHACHAR,
Aug. 14th, 1889.

It is nowhere stated in its article that oppression is never committed in the tea-gardens. What it meant to say was that oppression in those gardens was only occasional and not constant or general. Moreover, it is not true, as some think, that the oppression committed in the tea-gardens is of the kind

which was committed in the indigo factories of Jessore and Nuddea, and that the planters are not only aware of this oppression, but themselves commit it, and do not prevent others from committing it. During the time of the indigo riots it was ascertained on enquiry that the indigo-planters of Behar and the tea-planters of Assam were not so oppressive as the indigo-planters of Bengal, and no one therefore asked the Indigo Commission to enquire into the conduct of the indigo-planters of Behar and the tea-planters of Assam.

Nearly thirty years have since elapsed, and the condition of Assam and its tea-gardens has greatly changed. Assam is now traversed by a railway line, and has a regular steamer service. Public opinion has grown up in the province, and Assamese newspapers have acquired power and influence.

Laws have been passed for the protection of coolies, and officers have been appointed by Government to look after their condition. Acts of oppression are enquired into and their perpetrators are brought to justice. All this has made the planters cautious in their treatment of the coolies. The planters, as has been already observed, have nothing to do with the recruitment of coolies, and their first contact with them commences only when the latter have been brought into the gardens. And it is while in the gardens that they can be oppressed by the planters.

Coolie oppression may take a variety of forms, such as giving them bad food, housing them badly, refusing to pay them the stipulated wages, overworking them, causing them bodily pain, and treating their women in a beastly manner. But now-a-days the officers of Government keep a strict eye upon the food and lodging supplied to the coolies in the gardens, upon the payment of their wages, and upon their treatment in disease. Strict rules have also been laid down determining the capacity of coolie steamers and the nature of the food and medicines, which such steamers should carry on board. If it be therefore true that the officers of Government, whose duty it is to see these regulations enforced, do not wilfully neglect their duties and do not assist the planters in committing oppression on their coolies, then there can be no gainsaying that the measures taken by Government in this behalf afford adequate protection to the coolies against their oppression by the planters, so far as such oppression consists in supplying the former with bad food and lodging, withholding their wages from them, and not taking sufficient care of them in sickness. Now to the charge of overworking the coolies. That the coolies are not now overworked is clear from the fact that many of them possess small strips of land where they grow kitchen vegetables for their own use—a thing which they could not have done if their work in the garden had left them no leisure.

Mr. Hogarth, the indigo-planter, is writing in the *Englishman* newspaper that before condemning the planters, the public should ascertain for themselves what sort of men the planters are. And would it not be better, therefore, to condemn the planters after enquiring into their conduct, and the more so as they are ready to undergo the ordeal of an examination? Where is the evidence to show that the planters are an oppressive set of people, and that oppression is committed in most of the tea-gardens? The case of Mr. Ending shows that the planters have no sympathy with their oppressive brethren, and that they consider the latter as a disgrace to their body. If so, is it right to call the planters rogues and the worst of human beings? That there are bad men amongst the managers of tea-gardens may be readily admitted. But the question is, do the bad men form the majority? Mr. Hogarth has invited the public to inspect his garden. This invitation ought to be accepted by some of the representatives of the press.

SURABHI O PATAKA,
Aug. 15th, 1889.

The Durga Pooja holiday in the
Currency Office.

57. The *Surabhi o Patáká*, of the 15th August, strongly protests against the order of the head of the Currency Office, under which that office will remain open on those days during the Durga Pooja holidays

on which the Bank of Bengal will remain open. It is rumoured that the head of the Currency Office has given this order on his own responsibility, and in contravention of the existing order of Government on the subject. The Durga Pooja holidays are spent by the Hindus not only in festivities, but also in visiting their distant relatives. And to many of them these holidays present the only opportunity of seeing their wives and children far away in the villages. But the heartless foreigners do not understand all this. To abolish the Durga Pooja holidays will be not only an unjust, but also a very cruel act. Besides, as there is a religious air about these holidays, their abolition will hurt the religious feelings of Hindus.

58. The *Samaya*, of the 16th August, says that the Viceroy's order postponing the enquiry into the conduct of Dr. Hall, Superintendent, Nainee Jail, Allahabad,

SAMAYA,
Aug. 16th, 1889.

The Hearsey-Hall enquiry. until the decision of the defamation case in the Calcutta High Court has given satisfaction to the public. But the public are mortified by the Viceroy's refusal to grant Captain Hearsey's prayer to have the inquiry transferred from the jurisdiction of the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces.

59. The same paper refers to the story published in the *Tirhoot Courier* newspaper that a Magistrate of Tirhoot asked a zemindar of the place through his servant to lend him his carriage for a few hours, and that the zemindar having declined, the Magistrate wrote him an angry letter peremptorily asking him whether or no he would lend him the carriage, and expressing the hope that he would not refuse his demand, and asks the Lieutenant-Governor to obtain from the *Tirhoot Courier* the name of the Magistrate, and to punish him adequately for his rude behaviour.

SAMAYA.

60. The *Sanjivani*, of the 17th August, publishes the following letter of Mr. Selby, the Manager of the Nohatta Indigo Concern in Jessore, to Mr. Barrow, the

SANJIVANI,
Aug. 17th, 1889.

The Selby affair.
Magistrate of that district :—

NAWHATTA,
24-7-89.

MY DEAR BARROW,

I am in a fix about a khal in the Chowlia factory which the ryots of the Benodepur village, instigated by some persons who have determined to hitch a quarrel about it, have bunded up, and until the khal is open, I am completely prevented from bringing in the indigo plants from the north and east side of the river for Malai.

The khal is entirely a factory khal cut in Mr. Dumbel's time (a former proprietor of Chowlia), and is yearly excavated and kept open by factory money. This year I have spent some Rs. 900 in deepening it, and it has never done any harm whatever to any one.

I have tried persuasion and conciliation, but without success.

If I attempt to cut the khal by force there will be a serious row. As the inundation is rising and the matter getting serious, I am sending a petition to you, and I ask you to assist me in the matter as speedily as possible.

Hoping you are well,

I am, &c.,

(Sd.) CHARLES SELBY.

Mr. Barrow recorded the following deposition of the bearer of the letter, and wrote the following letter to the Sub-divisional Officer of Magura.

RAM PRASAD SING, S.A.

I am a servant of Mr. Selby. There is a dispute about the Benodpur khal. It has been bunded up by Barada Sarkar and other cultivators, who say that their *dhan* will be damaged. I have known the khal four years, and has never been bunded before. If it is kept shut, the indigo cannot be brought to the factory.

25-7-89.

F. H. BARROW.

From the Collector to the S. D. O., Magura.

From the matter of the dispute, and from the facts stated in the petition and in a letter from Mr. Selby, it seems probable that breach of the peace may be committed if the dispute is not settled.

The S. D. O. of Magura should immediately enquire under section 147, Criminal Procedure Code. If it appears that the factory has hitherto used the khal for boats and the defendants have not bunded it, the Sub-divisional Officer should pass order forbidding them to do so now and allowing the factory to remove any bund that has been made. If necessary, police should be sent to see that any such order is obeyed. The status of last year should be enforced.

25-7-89.

F. H. BARROW.

Mr. Barrow has been deputed by Government to make enquiries into the complaints of the inhabitants of Benodpur against Mr. Selby. But Mr. Barrow's undue familiarity with Mr. Selby, as shown in the letter given above, will prevent him from arriving at a right and impartial conclusion. Mr. Barrow ought to have himself refused to hold the inquiry in question; and as he has not done so, the Lieutenant-Governor is requested to send some impartial gentleman to make the enquiry.

SANJIVANI,
Aug. 17th, 1889.

61. The same paper, of the 17th August, says that the natives of Bengal will ever remain grateful to Sir Steuart Bayley for the measures he is taking to foster and encourage the indigenous arts and manufactures of Bengal.

Sir Steuart Bayley and indigenous arts and manufactures.

BANGABASI,
Aug. 17th, 1889.

62. The *Bangabási*, of the 17th August, says that the sentence of death passed on the young and beautiful Mrs. Maybrick is the absorbing topic of the hour in England. The English people are crying shame on the Judge who has passed the sentence on her, and are making a strong agitation in order to get the sentence commuted. If Mrs. Maybrick had not been convicted, hundreds of Englishmen would have keenly contested for her hand. Such profound sympathy with a woman who has been guilty of the murder of her husband looks well only in civilized countries like England, and the people of India cannot even conceive how there can be so much sympathy with such a woman. Surely the Indians are a barbarous people!

Mrs. Maybrick.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Aug. 19th, 1889.

63. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandriká*, of the 19th August, refers to the *Sahachar* newspaper's advocacy on behalf of the tea-planters of India, and observes as follows:—The writer will still say that coolies are often used like slaves by the managers of tea-gardens. The Editor of the *Sahachar* also used to say the same thing before. And though the condition of the coolies in the tea-gardens has undergone no

The *Sahachar* newspaper on the tea-planters of India.

change, the mental condition of the Editor of the *Sahachar* has certainly changed. It is not known to what this change is owing. The ex-Government Pleader of Alipore intends to visit the tea-gardens, and is advocating the cause of the planters. If it were not bad to ascribe motives, the writer would say that the Editor of the *Sahachar* has become a partner of a tea-garden.

64. The *Navavibhakar Sādhārani*, of the 19th August, says that there is a class of impudent critics among Englishmen who, without the least claim to Bengali scholarship, presume to sit in judgment over Bengali literature, and sometimes even over Sanskrit literature. Not one of the Englishmen with pretensions to Bengali scholarship whom the writer has seen up to this time can write or speak Bengali without falling into some gross error or other, and yet they presume to compete with Bengalis themselves in Bengali scholarship. A writer in the *Pioneer* has written a criticism on Bengali literature. It is clear from his manner of writing that he has not read any one of the books which he has criticised, and has based his criticism on the critical remarks contained in the catalogue of Bengali books published in the *Calcutta Gazette*. Everybody knows how short those remarks are and what an imperfect idea they give of the books to which they relate. The critic in this case has, however, depended entirely on the remarks in the catalogue, and his criticism is, as was to be expected under the circumstances, a very curious performance indeed.

The critic says that "viewed as a whole, it (Bengal literature) hardly bears out Bengal's claim to intellectual superiority over other provinces of our Indian Empire." It is not easy to see why the writer should have gone out of his way to make a remark of this kind in a review of Bengali books. Such a remark might have been appropriate in a comparative estimate of Bengali and Hindi books, or of Bengali and Guzerati books, or of Bengali and Urdu books, and so on. But the fact is that the writer wants to abuse Bengalis and to create ill-feeling between them and the other Indian communities. Since the establishment of the Congress by Bengalis, a class of Englishmen have made this their business. These Englishmen are the greatest enemies of Indians and are doing most injury to India.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
Aug. 19th, 1889.

URIYA PAPERS.

65. The *Samvadbāhikā*, of the 8th August, has every sympathy with the measures that are in the contemplation of Government with a view to bettering the status and prospects of the subordinate officers of the Police Department. It is of opinion that a discreet recruitment of officers from the respectable classes of the people is sure to place the police on a respectable footing, and to enhance its value and usefulness in the estimation of the public.

SAMVADBAHIKA,
Aug. 8th, 1889.

66. The *Dipaka* and *Utkaldīpikā*, of the 10th August, are sorry to notice an extraordinary stretch of magisterial power on the part of Mr. Maguire, the District Magistrate of Cuttack, in throwing impediments in the way of the performance of the *Sradha* ceremony by Raja Baidyanath Pandit of Cuttack in memory of his deceased mother by prohibiting Brahmins to attend it on the sanitary ground that a large assembly of Brahmins, engaged in eating and drinking after the native fashion for hours together, might to a certain extent affect the health of the town injuriously. They are, however, glad to find that the Magistrate was at last prevailed upon to withdraw his singular order.

DIPAKA AND
UTKALDIPIKA,
Aug. 10th, 1889.

DIPAKA,
Aug. 10th, 1889.

67. In refuting the arguments of the Cuttaok correspondent of the *Calcutta Statesman*, the *Dipaka*, of the 10th August, brings it prominently to the notice of the public that the construction of the Naraj, Jobra and Jagutpur anicuts by allowing the water of the Mahanadi to stand accumulated round about the town of Cuttack for eleven months in a year has contributed greatly to the dampness and humidity of the town-soil by a constant process of percolation.

UTKAL DIPIKA,
Aug 10th, 1889.

68. The Daspalla correspondent of the *Utkaldipika*, of the 10th August, writes, for the information of the public, that the Raja of that State has taken proper relief measures with a view to enable those of his subjects that have been overtaken by a terrible scarcity of food to tide over the present difficulties and distress in a suitable manner.

ASSAM PAPERS.

SILCHAR,
Aug 12th, 1889.

69. The *Silchar*, of the 12th August, cannot understand why Nimai Baboo, the tehsildar of Silchar, employs his peon to collect the revenue due from mirasdars although there is a special officer appointed by Government on a monthly salary of Rs. 20 for that purpose. It is rumoured that the peon in question was appointed at the recommendation of a relative of Nimai Baboo, and is especially favoured by him, so much so that on one occasion the sum collected by the peon having been found short by Rs. 3, the tehsildar ordered that payments of revenue made in pice would not thenceforward be accepted, and actually made a *ticca* peon open a shop where persons coming to pay revenue could convert their pice into silver pieces by paying a fee to the shop-keeper. On another occasion, the post of a mohurir having fallen vacant in his office, Nimai Baboo appointed his favourite peon to the post and thereby greatly scandalised the other mohurirs of his office.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 21th August 1889.